

## Message Text

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EXDIS, BRUSSELS FOR USEEC

FOLLOWING REPEAT COPENHAGEN 3413 ACTION SECSTATE MAY 23.

QUOTE: S E C R E T COPENHAGEN 3413

EXDIS

EO 11652: XGDS-1 DIMPTD  
TAGS: EEC, DA, GR, PO, SP, TU, CY, YO, XC, SHUM, UR, CG  
SUBJ: DETAILS OF EC FOREIGN MINISTERS' INFORMAL MEETING, MAY 20,  
1978

REF: COPENHAGEN 3409

1. REFTEL CONTAINED THE AMBASSADOR'S DESCRIPTION AND SUMMARY OF  
THE BRIEFING WE RECEIVED FROM THE DANISH FOREIGN MINISTRY ON THE  
INFORMAL MEETING OF THE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS ON MAY  
20. THE PRESENT MESSAGE SETS OUT DETAILS OF THAT  
BRIEFING.

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2. MFA DEPUTY POLITICAL DIRECTOR DYVIG EXPLAINED THAT IN THEIR  
FORMAL DISCUSSION, MINISTERS TOOK UP THE QUESTION OF HOW THEY WOULD  
ADAPT THEIR PROCEDURES TO AN EC OF "12" IN SUCH A WAY THAT  
THE STRENGTH OF THE "NINE" WOULD NOT BE WEAKENED. THEY  
AGREED IN PRINCIPLE THAT THEY WOULD USE MAJORITY  
DECISIONS MORE AND MORE, BUT THAT THERE WOULD BE NO  
LEGAL CHANGES IN THEIR PROCEDURES. THE LUXEMBOURG  
COMPROMISE WILL REMAIN.

3. THE MINISTERS AGREED TO ASK COREPER TO SOLVE MORE PROBLEMS

ON ITS OWN AND NOT TO REFER SO MANY TO MINISTERS. IN THE FUTURE, THE MEMBER COUNTRY WHICH REQUESTS AN APPEAL FROM COREPER TO MINISTERS WILL HAVE THE BURDEN OF PROOF. IN AN ASIDE, DYVIG ADDED THAT FOREIGN MINISTERS BELIEVED IT WAS WORTH REPEATING THAT THE MEMBER COUNTRIES ARE PARTNERS, NOT OPPONENTS.

4. MINISTERS DISCUSSED THE LANGUAGE PROBLEM. THEY AGREED THAT THE PRESENT NUMBER OF OFFICIAL LANGUAGES SHOULD NOT BE REDUCED AND THAT THREE NEW ONES WOULD BE ADDED WHEN THE COMMUNITY WAS ENLARGED TO 12. THEY DID AGREE, HOWEVER, THAT THEY WOULD TRY TO BE FLEXIBLE AND KEEP INFORMAL MEETINGS DOWN TO TWO LANGUAGES IF POSSIBLE. ON THE OTHER HAND, IT WAS FELT THAT WHENEVER POLITICIANS (MINISTERS) AND PARLIAMENTARIANS MEET, THEY SHOULD BE ABLE TO USE THEIR OWN LANGUAGES VIA COMPLETE INTERPRETATION SERVICES. BY THE SAME TOKEN ALL LEGAL DOCUMENTS AND FORMAL PAPERS WOULD CONTINUE TO BE TRANSLATED INTO ALL COMMUNITY LANGUAGES.

5. THE MINISTERS STILL DO NOT WISH TO SET UP A FORMAL POLITICAL SECRETARIAT, PREFERRING TO STRENGTHEN THE PRESIDENCY FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTRIES OF THE MEMBER COUNTRIES. THIS WILL MEAN IN EFFECT THAT ONE OR TWO FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS WILL OVERLAP  
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AT BOTH ENDS OF A PRESIDENCY: E.G., AN FRG OFFICIAL IS NOW IN RESIDENCE AT RHISTIANSBORG AND SOMEONE FROM THE DANISH PRESIDENCY WILL BE DETAILED TO BONN.

6. PERMANENT UNDER SECRETARY JORGENSEN THEN COMMENTED THAT THE DANES HAD WISHED TO HAVE A MORE PROFOUND DISCUSSION ON THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES OF THE EXPANSION TO 12 COUNTRIES. THE MINISTERS HAD SHIED AWAY FROM THIS DISCUSSION AND DID NOT EVEN ADDRESS THE COMMISSION'S "FRESCO" DIRECTLY. THE IRISH FOMIN COMMENTED THAT ANY REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUNDS FOR PORTUGAL, FOR EXAMPLE, SHOULD NOT BE AT THE EXPENSE OF THE PRESENT NINE MEMBERS.

7. DYVIG NOTED THAT MINISTERS DIDN'T FACE UP TO THE REAL DILEMMA OF THE ENLARGEMENT QUESTION: A POLITICAL "YES" VERSUS AN ECONOMIC "BUT." MORE SUGGESTIONS AS TO HOW TO OPEN UP THE POLITICAL COOPERATION MECHANISM TO THE THREE NEW MEMBERS BEFORE THEIR FORMAL ADHERENCE TO THE EC WOULD BE DISCUSSED AT THE JUNE 12 MINISTERS MEETING IN COPENHAGEN.

EC RELATIONS

8. TURKEY AND CYPRUS (REPORTED IN COPENHAGEN 3369).

9. YUGOSLAVIA. DYVIG REMARKED THAT NOT MUCH WAS SAID ON THIS TOPIC. WHAT WAS DISCUSSED, HE RECOUNTED, FOLLOWED CLOSELY THE REPORT BY AMBASSADOR HINTON (BRUSSELS 9729). DYVIG SAID THAT IT WAS OBVIOUS THAT THE YUGOSLAVS WANT THE NINE "TO GIVE MORE"

BUT CANNOT ACCEPT THE ONLY OBVIOUS "CONSTITUTIONAL MECHANISM" PRESENTLY AVAILABLE TO THE NINE IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE THIS: A FORMAL PREFERENTIAL AGREEMENT. IT WAS APPARENT TO ALL THAT THE CONTINUING TALKS BETWEEN THE YUGOSLAVS AND THE COMMISSION HAVE NOT BEEN SATISFACTORY TO THE FORMER.

10. A LETTER FROM PRIME MINISTER OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE INDIVIDUAL HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE NINE IS BEING DELIVERED AND WILL BE  
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CONSIDERED AT THE EC COUNCIL MEETING IN LUXEMBOURG ON JUNE 6. THE MINISTERS REMAIN SYMPATHETIC TO YUGOSLAV WISHES AND ARE POSITIVE IN THEIR APPROACH TO THEM BY DYVIG SAID THAT THERE WERE NO SPECIFICS DISCUSSED ABOUT WHAT OR HOW A "JIGGLE" COULD BE IMPLEMENTED.

11. ASEAN. DYVIG TRACED THE BACKGROUND OF ASEAN'S REQUEST TO MEET WITH FOREIGN MINISTERS. THE GERMANS HAVE GIVEN STRONG SUPPORT TO THIS IDEA. OTHER EC MEMBER COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN LESS ENTHUSIASTIC, BUT AT HESSELET DECIDED TO INVITE THEIR ASEAN COUNTERPARTS TO MEET WITH THEM ON NOVEMBER 20 IN BRUSSELS.

12. DYVIG EXPLAINED THAT IT WAS CLEAR THAT MOST ASEAN MINISTERS WERE MORE INTERESTED IN DISCUSSING BOTH POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ITEMS BUT THAT THE EC MINISTERS WOULD PREFER TO DISCUSS ONLY ECONOMIC MATTERS. THE CONTEXT OF THE NOV. 20 MEETING WILL CONSEQUENTLY BE A "DISCUSSION OF ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITHOUT EXCLUDING A POLITICAL DISCUSSION." COREPER HAS PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR PREPARING THE MEETING BUT THERE WILL BE AN INPUT FROM THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE. DANISH FONMIN K.B. ANDERSEN WAS AUTHORIZED TO PASS THIS DECISION ON TO THE INDONESIAN FOREIGN MINISTER WHO WAS TRANSITTING COPENHAGEN MAY 22.

13. DYVIG COMMENTED THAT THE RELUCTANCE ON THE PART OF EC MINISTERS TO MEET WITH THEIR ASEAN COUNTERPARTS STEMMED FROM THE FACT THAT THE EC DID NOT WANT TO ESTABLISH A PRECEDENT FOR SIMILAR GROUPS AROUND THE WORLD SUCH AS THE LATIN AMERICANS, COMECON, ETC. THE EC IS PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE, FOR EXAMPLE, ON THE QUESTION OF THE EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE, WHICH THE NINE HAVE SUCCEEDED IN LIMITING TO ECONOMIC ISSUES. AMBASSADOR JORGENSEN NOTED THAT THE ASEAN GROUP WAS STILL PRIMARILY AN INFORMAL ONE WITHOUT A SECRETARIAT BUT THAT THERE WERE INDICATIONS THAT THE ASEAN NATIONS WOULD LIKE TO MODEL

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THEIR STYLE OF COOPERATION ON THAT OF THE EC.

LOME II AND HUMAN RIGHTS

14. DYVIG SAID THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTERS SEEMED TO END

ME PLACE IN THE MIDDLE BETWEEN A LITTLE-OR-  
NOTHING LINK BETWEEN HUMAN RIGHTS AND LOME II ON THE  
ONE HAND THE CALL, BY THE BRITISH (AND PERHAPS  
OTHERS), FOR LANGUAGE IN THE NEW CONVENTION WHICH  
WOULD PUT REAL TEETH INTO REQUIRED OBSERVATION OF  
HUMAN RIGHTS BY THE ACPS.

15. WHAT EMERGED, DYVIG CONTINUED, WAS AN APPARENT  
CONSENSUS THAT THERE SHOULD NOT BE A "LEGAL DEMAND"  
ON THE ACP COUNTRIES TO OBSERVE HUMAN RIGHTS  
AS A CONDITION OF THEIR ASSOCIATION WITH THE EC.  
THERE WILL, HOWEVER, BE A REFERENCE TO HUMAN RIGHTS  
IN THE NEW CONVENTION. THE FOREIGN MINISTERS WILL  
TAKE UP THIS ISSUE AGAIN AT THEIR MEETINGS ON JUNE 6  
IN LUXEMBOURG AND ON JUNE 27 IN BRUSSELS.

16. IN THE MEANTIME, THE COMMISSION WILL BE INSTRUCTED  
TO TONE DOWN WHAT MINISTERS REGARDED AS ITS OVERLY TOUGH  
POSTURE ON THIS QUESTION AND IS BEING CHARGED TO COME  
UP WITH SUGGESTED LANGUAGE FOR MINISTERIAL CONSIDERATION  
AT THE TWO MINISTERIAL MEETINGS. ALSO, EC PARLIA-  
MENTARIANS WILL BE ENJOINED FROM BEING TOO OUTSPOKEN  
AT THEIR MEETING NEXT WEEK IN GRENADA WITH THE ACP  
COUNTERPARTS.

SOVIET SENTENCE OF ORLOV

17 BASED ON THE DECISION TAKEN BY FOREIGN MINISTERS  
PRESENT AT HESSELET, THE DANES ARE CIRCULATING THE  
DRAFT OF A STATEMENT WHICH WOULD BE ISSUED BY THEM  
AS PRESIDENT OF THE NINE, PROBABLY AS A PRESS COMMUNIQUE,  
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"REGRETTING" THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT  
IN THIS CASE.

18. SEVERAL OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS REPORTED THEIR  
JUDGMENT THAT THE SOVIET REACTION TO INDIVIDUAL DE-  
MARCHES ALREADY MADE ON THIS MATTER HAS BEEN  
RELATIVELY MODERATE. THEY SEE THIS AS A SOVIET  
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE REALIZATION THAT THE SOVIETS  
HAVE A BAD CASE. ACCORDINGLY, THE MINISTERS BELIEVED  
THAT A STATEMENT BY THEM JOINTLY MIGHT HAVE SOME  
EFFECT ON DETERRING THE SOVIETS FROM CONTINUING THEIR  
PROSECUTION OF OTHER DISSIDENTS.

19. DYVIG SAID THAT THE HEAVY ORLOV SENTENCE HAD A  
STRONG REACTION ON ALL OF THOSE PRESENT AT THE MEETING  
AND THAT SOME RAISED THE QUESTION WHETHER A SIMPLE STATEMENT  
BY THE NINE WOULD BE ENOUGH. THERE WAS DISCUSSION OF  
HOW THIS WHOLE MATTER MIGHT BE BROUGHT UP IN THE CON-  
TEXT OF THE CONTINUING CSCE MEETINGS AND EVEN

WHETHER THE NINE SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE 1980  
OLYMPIC GAMES IN MOSCOW.

20. DYVIG REMARKED THAT IT WAS NOT AT ALL CLEAR  
WHERE THE CONSENSUS LAY ON THESE TOUGHER MEASURES.  
THE DANES THEMSELVES ARE AMONG THOSE WHO WANT TO BE  
SOFTER BECAUSE OF THEIR TRADITIONAL FEAR THAT TOUGH  
MEASURES MAY BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE AND MAKE THE LOT OF  
THE SOVIET DISSIDENTS EVEN WORSE. POLITICAL DIRECTORS  
WILL EXAMINE POSSIBLE TOUGHER MEASURES AT THEIR JUNE  
6-7 MEETING HERE.

21. COMMENT: IT APPEARED CLEAR THAT THE FOREIGN  
MINISTRY IS NOT ANXIOUS FOR THIS MATTER TO BE ON THE  
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FRONT BURNER WHEN DANISH FOREIGN MINISTER K.B.  
ANDERSEN VISITS MOSCOW JUNE 14-18. END COMMENT.

FRENCH-BELGIAN OPERATION

22. AMBASSADOR DYVIG NOTED THAT BECAUSE OF THE TIMELI-  
NESS OF THE SITUATION, A FAIRLY LONG DISCUSSION OF  
ZAIRE TOOK PLACE IN THE EVENING AFTER FOREIGN MINISTER  
GUIRINGAUD'S ARRIVAL, EVEN THOUGH THE QUESTION WAS  
NOT ON THE AGENDA. GUIRINGAUD EXPLAINED THE  
RATIONALE BEHIND THE FRENCH INTERVENTION AND NOTED  
THE COOPERATION OFFERED BY OTHER COUNTRIES, INCLUDING  
THE U.S. GUIRINGAUD CHARACTERIZED THE FRENCH  
INTERVENTION AS A "LIMITED RESUCE OPERATION."

23. HE REFERRED TO PRESS REPORTS CONCERNING A  
FALLING-OUT BETWEEN THE FRENCH AND BELGIANS, AND TOLD  
THE MINISTERS THAT THESE HAD BEEN EXAGGERATED. THERE  
WAS "NO PROBLEM BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES."  
GUIRINGAUD WENT ON TO SAY THAT PRIME MINISTER  
TINDEMANS, ON MAY 20, HAD HAD A LONG TELEPHONE CON-  
VERSATION WITH PRESIDENT GISCARD AND THAT THEY WERE IN  
ACCORD ON THE ZAIRE OPERATION. GUIRINGAUD THOUGHT  
BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER SIMONET WOULD HAVE AGREED WITH  
HIS ASSESSMENT, HAD HE BEEN ABLE TO COME, AND THAT  
TINDEMAN'S PRESENT PLIGHT IN CONNECTION WITH THE  
ZAIRE OPERATION STEMMED FROM DOMESTIC CAUSES.

24. GUIRINGAUD STRESSED THAT THE FRENCH ACTION HAD  
BEEN NECESSARY TO ASSURE THE SAFETY OF THE EUROPEANS  
AND THAT IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO REMOVE THE TROOPS IN  
"A FEW DAYS". THE MINISTERS AGREED THAT THE ACTION  
HAD BEEN JUSTIFIED IN ORDER TO SAVE THE  
NATIONALS OF THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED.

25. DYVIG THEN REMARKED THAT IN SIMONET'S ABSENCE THE

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TREATMENT OF ZAIRE HAD BEEN A RATHER ONE-SIDED ONE. NO ONE SPOKE UP IN OPPOSITION TO WHAT HAD HAPPENED NOR DID ANY ONE FEEL THE NEED TO COMMENT ON GUIRINGAUD'S PRESENTATION, BUT, GIVEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN DIFFICULT TO BRING TO THE SURFACE FRANCO/BELGIAN DIFFERENCES.

26. PLEASE NOTED DANISH SENSITIVIES CONCERNING THIS BRIEFING CONTAINED IN REFTEL AND THE LIMITED DISTRIBUTION WE HAVE MADE OF THESE MESSAGES. DEAN UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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